

Mike Davis

City of Quartz: Evacuating the Future in Lost Angeles

Ecology of Fear: Los Angeles and the Imagination of Disaster

History of the development of LA:

- Publicity. Advertising

- Newspapers

- Land advertising

- Hollywood, mythology

- Agriculture

- Oil

- Manufacturing (aircraft, defense)

  - WW2, influx of workers

Desert or Garden?

Water and water rights

- LA River

- The Valley

Earthquakes

Fires

- Firestorms

- Refinery fires

- Tenement fires

Storms

- windstorms

- Tornadoes, waterspouts

- Floods

- mudslides

Drought

- Santa Ana winds, firestorms

- Fires

Land development--sprawl

- developers

- builders

- politicians

Transportation

- End of interurban rail--replacement with bus and cars

- Freeway system

- Smog

Gated communities

Homeless and squatter housing

Urban decline, Ghetto

- mid-60s Watts

- South Central

- East LA

## Plagues

- Snakes from the ocean
- Cougars in the hills
- Crows, racoons, rodents (rats/squirrels)
- African bees
- Magnolia*

## Doom city

*Independence Day*

## --disaster fiction

Atomic bomb

Earthquake

Aliens

*War of the Worlds*

Invasion (Japanese WW2)

Gangs/terrorism

*Die Hard*

*Face/Off*

LA Gangster rap, New Jack Cinema, *American Me*

Tsunami

Riot

Vs. police

Monsters

*Them!*

## Cults and catastrophe

Religious cults

Charles Manson

## Distopic Sci Fi

Bladerunner